

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Nineteenth Suffolk Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2002.

Residents of Nineteenth Suffolk Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2002, there were 124,539 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 1.2% (1,464) of these reside in the Nineteenth Suffolk Representative District. 3% (38) of admissions from the Nineteenth Suffolk Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2002, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Nineteenth Suffolk Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 70% were male and 30% were female.
- 61% were between the ages of 30-49.
- 87% were white non-Latino, 2% were black non-Latino, 8% were Latino, and 3% were other racial categories.
- 68% were never married, 13% were married, and 19% reported not to be married now.
- 25% had less than high school education, 54% completed high school, and 20% had more than high school education.
- 28% were employed.
- 9% were homeless.
- 29% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Nineteenth Suffolk Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2002					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	34%	43%	6%	5%	2%
State	45%	37%	6%	4%	3%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2002							
Nineteenth Suffolk Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	1,525	1,071	435	573	368	679	442
FY '96	1,671	1,154	496	596	393	825	557
FY '97	1,516	1,112	463	472	250	640	477
FY '98	1,403	977	397	421	196	652	467
FY '99	1,407	1,012	339	431	169	687	515
FY '00	1,564	1,018	389	444	157	815	622
FY '01	1,505	935	375	462	149	793	542
FY '02	1,464	894	350	388	113	711	475

Heroin and Injection Drug Use

Figure 1 below shows the proportional changes in all admissions in the Nineteenth Suffolk Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

